GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CIVIL AVIATION
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1365
ANSWERED ON:03.03.2016
Civilian Use of Drones
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Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether drones of various types including high capacity toys are available for purchase in the retail market in the country, if so, the details
thereof;

(b) whether such sale of drones is legal, if so, the details thereof indicating the quantum of such sales during the last three years, State/UT-wise;

(c) whether private enterprises and civilians are allowed to use drones for legal purposes;

(d) if so, the details thereof and the purpose/activities for which they are allowed to do so;

(e) whether the Ministry is developing a policy or regulations to allow for civilian usage of drones, if so, the details thereof; and

(f) whether the Government is making non-military usage of drones, if so, the details thereof for the last three year, and the current year?

Answer

Minister of State in the Ministry of CIVIL AVIATION
(Dr Mahesh Sharma)

(a) & (b) The Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) does not maintain such data.

(c) & (d) DGCA has restricted civil use of drones by non-Government agencies, private organisations or individuals vide public notice dated 07.10.2014 which available at its website (www.dgca.nic.in).

(e) Draft guidelines for operation of drones for civil use have been prepared by DGCA and are under stakeholders" consultation process.

(f) DGCA public notice mentioned above does not restrict use of drones by the Government. Some Government agencies/ organisaitions have sought approval/ permission/ no-objection from DGCA since the issue of public notice in 2014. Details of such organisations for which DGCA has
issued no-objection is attached as Annexure-I.